

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

DEC 09 2013

FCC Mail Room

In the Matter of)
)
Inmate Calling Report and Order) WC Docket No. 12-375
and Further Notice of Proposed)
Rule Making)

CONSUMER COMMENT TO THE COMMISSION

On November 27, 2013 I received a copy of a Public Notice announcing the comment cycle and effective date for the "Inmate Calling Report and Order and FNPRM" in the above captioned matter.¹

Presently, the Pennsylvania Department of Correction (Pa. DOC) utilizes the service of Global Tel-Link (GTL) to provide Inmate Calling Services (ICS) to inmates. Calling rates are as follows:

Collect Calling

Not permitted. All calls must either be prepaid, or a debit account must be established by contacting GTL.

Debit Calling

It is unknown what the rates are for debit calling, however, I have been informed that they are within pennies to that of prepaid calling.

Prepaid Calling

Local Call: \$1.60 for 15 minutes

¹ Please note that I do not have access to the actual Report and Order and FNPRM. Therefore, the information provided in my comment is based upon my interpretation of the Public Notice, and what I believe is of the most use to the Commission.

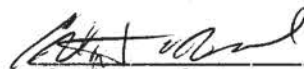
IntraLata Calling: \$3.35 for 15 minutes

IntraState Calling: \$5.15 for 15 minutes

InterState: \$9.80 for 15 minutes.

Additionally, in recent months GTL has blocked Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) numbers, unless the numbers are obtained, for a purchase and monthly fee, from GTL. Initially, families for the Pa. DOC obtained VoIP numbers through GoogleVoice. In July, my numbers were blocked, stating that call-forwarding numbers were prohibited. At the time, my family had obtained the telephone numbers of 814-470-8331 and 814-470-8333. In recent weeks, a mass-effort has been initiated to eliminate all VoIP numbers, including those provided by MagicJack, and ConsCallHome. I was directly advised that the authority permitting GTL to block VoIP numbers was based upon a law entitled the Telephone Operator Consumer Services Improvement Act, 47 U.S.C. § 226. As of this date, the above referenced numbers are still blocked based upon the sole reason that they are VoIP numbers.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher M. Rodland
EN0058
301 Institution Drive
Bellefonte, PA 16823-1665

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